

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 27, 2003    LB 83

LB 83.

CLERK:     Mr. President, LB 83, introduced by Senator McDonald. (Read title.) Introduced on January 9 of this year, referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. At this time, I have no amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM:    Senator McDonald to open on LB 83.

SENATOR McDONALD:    Mr. Speaker and members, LB 83 eliminates a quarterly reporting requirement for county veterans service officers. This quarterly report goes to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, counties and cities. LB 83 does not eliminate the quarterly report of activities and expenditures to the county, required by Section 80-102. County veterans service officers will still be accountable within each county to their prospective county boards and commissioners. Funding for the entire operation of a county veterans service office comes from county tax dollars, and the county has direct supervision over each county office. In the year 2002, only 33 counties complied with the quarterly reporting requirement, 15 counties partially complied, and 45 counties, which is 48 percent, did not make any report. The Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs does not oppose eliminating the quarterly report. Accountability to the county board for expenditures remain in statute. We simply eliminate a "make-work" report that isn't needed. Please advance LB 83 to Select File.

SPEAKER BROMM:    Thank you, Senator McDonald. Senator Chambers, on LB 83.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:    Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this bill has a quaint...a bit of quaint phraseology that I find nowhere else in the statute and, for that reason, I'm reluctant to turn it loose, and that quaint language relates to its expenditures and doings, or its doings and expenditures. I've never heard that phraseology before. I'd like to ask Senator McDonald a question. Senator McDonald, to what does "its doings" refer to, if you know?